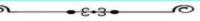




**SUMMER 2021** 

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# Message from the President

The Board of Directors and Committee members remain busy this summer!

Insurance Claim: Our former insurance company refuses to pay approximately \$135,000 for Law & Ordinance coverage awarded for damage from Hurricane Irma. We offered a settlement of \$95,000 through our attorney, Constable Law, but were turned down with no counter-offer. The Board is considering moving forward with a lawsuit.

Reserve Study: Dave Porreca, board vice president is working with Reserve Advisors to draft a Reserve Study that will allow us to more accurately judge how much funding will be needed for future capital projects at Bermuda Cays. There will be an on-site meeting this month with Reserve Advisors. The long-term health of our community, both aesthetic and financial, require a plan that provides an accurate assessment of our future needs. Thanks to board member Russ Brown for lending his years of experience to this project.

Budget & Finances: Our treasurer, Diane Schmidt, has been working very closely with the accounting staff at Ability Management to gain a complete understanding of Bermuda Cay's finances. Our annual budget is nearly \$500,000 and is continually under pressure from rising costs and unexpected expenses. Thanks to Diane, we can be sure our money is being spent wisely.

Cable TV: Our largest budget item, bulk cable TV, is under contract until November 2022. Gary Herman has been communicating with our current provider, ComCast and newcomer, Hot Wire to explore options for future cable TV and internet. The Board of Directors plan to fully involve the community in this decision and will be providing detailed information in the coming months.

Vanderbilt Drive Hedge/Wall: Julie Denton and Gary Herman have been investigating the costs for different options on our western property line where a 30' hedge shields us from Vanderbilt Drive. These options include replacing all or part of the hedge, installing a wall or incorporating a berm with a hedge or a wall. There is concern among many residents that continued development in Bonita Springs will increase traffic/noise on Vanderbilt Drive. Julie's experience in state and local government has been helpful in communicating with Bonita Spring's representatives regarding this issue.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

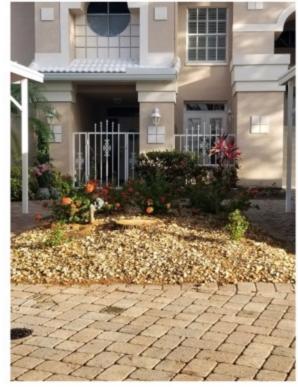
Ken Allen, President Bermuda Cays Condominium Association

# **Landscaping Update**

Recently, members of the landscaping committee went on a walk-around of Bermuda Cays to determine a plan for improving our outdoor appearance. Because we work with a limited budget, the group decided to focus on a 4-year plan, prioritizing the buildings by the urgency of their needs. For instance, buildings D and T would be refurbished in year one, whereas buildings B and N would be addressed in year four. Ideally, progress would happen much more quickly than four years.

Everyone agreed that mulch is a priority. However, it was noted that would not be done until after the carports are power washed, as many of the units require that work on their fascias also. As we know with the roofs and the carports, our patience will be rewarded. So too with our landscaping plans.





# Welcome New Homeowners



E-201 Thomas & Jane Curcuri R-202 Joy Ellen Dimaggio S-101 Patricia Carman U-102 Richard Snyder/Debra Pol X-101 Vincent J / Carolyn Tracy

## The Bermuda Cays Limpkin Family



You may remember, in our Spring newsletter, a picture of a limpkin family - Mom, Dad, and six new chicks. Those babies have grown so big that they must surely be teenagers now! The family makes its home around the Cays pond. The favorite food source is Florida apple snails, and apparently we have an ample supply, as the limpkins are out foraging every day. A group of limpkins is called a "hobbling"; and of the six children, five of them stay quite close to Mom, while one - Junior? - follows Dad everywhere. Perhaps he is in training for when he mates and starts his own "hobbling". Occasionally, the family goes on an outing to the big lake, bringing traffic to a halt while they amble across the street. We hope they will be permanent Cays residents!

A COOL POOL.

A SUNNY SKY

AND BOOK

That's the perfect recipe for relaxing at the Cays. You can pick up that book without even leaving the pool area. Just open the plastic cabinet outside the ladies bathroom and take your pick. What mood are you in; craving the action of espionage and assassin thrillers? or a feel-good family tale? You're likely to find it at the Cays' own free little library. Enjoy

## Need a GOOD BOOK TO BEAD?

■ Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston Their Eyes Were Watching God is an American classic that was first published in 1937, but was relatively unknown for decades before coming to enjoy recent acclaim. Janie Crawford, a proud young Southern Black woman struggles through 3 marriages in her quest for love and independence. Janie's Grandmother marries her off to Logan, an old farmer who works her in the fields. Then Joe Starks wanders into town, builds and runs the general store, and marries Janie. Joe dies, and one night soon after, young Tea Cake stops at the store. Their unconventional story is one of love, independence, and guts. I love this book for many reasons; the story is "true" on several levels, it is peopled with believable characters and drawn against accurate historic detail, a winning combination that's not to be missed by Floridians.

- The Boys in the Boat:
  Nine Americans and Their Quest for
  Gold at the 1936 Olympics,
  tells the story of the University of
  Washington crew team,
  made up of lower-middle class students
  and their struggles to get to the
  Olympics in Germany.
- The Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah, is a Texas family's story of survival of the Great Depression, the Drought, and the Dust Bowl of the 1930s. Elsa and her two children are forced to flee Texas to California, looking for the land of "milk and honey" to make a new life. But what they find instead is far from the paradise they were expecting. This book made me want to re-read John Steinbeck's Grapes of Wrath! (for fun, and not for an English class)
- Fast Girls, by Elise Hooper. This is also a novel based on a true story of the United States women's track team who made it to the 1936 Olympics and the perseverance that finally got them there. As told through the stories of three of the runners, this book will be hard to put down.



# Owner Spotlight



Cheryle Powell and Suzanne Mitchell

For our summer newsletter issue we interviewed two owners, featuring the mother daughter duo - Mom Cheryle Powell from building A, and daughter Suzanne Mitchell from building L.

Cheryle moved to Florida in 1981 and has been a resident of Bermuda Cays since 1990. She and her husband had 3 children, Suzanne, Cory, and Chris. She was a travel agent with Travel Agents International in Fort Myers and Bonita Springs. When she retired, she felt the need to fill her time and ended up working 15 more years as a computer monitor of patient tracking at Naples Community Hospital.

Suzanne hails from Atlanta and is planning on retiring in 2022. She is a Human Resource Vice President for Delta Airlines She and her husband had 2 children, Scott and Jeremy. While at Bermuda Cays, she enjoys helping her brothers Chris and Cory as they own North Naples Country Club (a local neighborhood bar built in the 1930's). Right as Covid shut everything down, Chris also purchased the newly renovated Island House restaurant which is less than a half mile away Bermuda Cays. Her brothers are working on getting Suzanne to Bonita full time so she can help out more often in these two family businesses.

Luckily for Cheryle her children always say "we like our mom, so we run to her, not away from her" and they are all close by. Cheryle and her daughter tragically lost their husbands within 10 years of each other. As a result, traveling together became their therapy - something to look forward to. They both know first hand that life is too short, and they want to see the world. Every year they plan a trip to Europe, as the enjoyment of traveling must be in their blood. They are looking forward to a trip abroad in 2022. When they were asked to share a special recipe that their family enjoys, they immediately thought of "Sausage Stars". It sounds delicious! Thank you Powell Family!



### **Bermuda Cays Board of Directors**

- President Ken Allen (315) 440-0454 Email: kallen8768@aol.com
- Vice President David Porreca (412) 512-7182 Email: David.m.porreca@comcast.net
- Treasurer Diane Schmidt (239) 223-0998 Email: drdischmidt@comcast.net
- Secretary -

#### Email:

■ Director - Russell Brown (812) 992-2257 Email: Rustybrown43icloud.com



#### SAUSAGE STARS

1 lb sausage

2 tablespoons finely chopped onion 1 ½ cup monetary jack cheese 1 ½ cup sharp cheddar cheese 1 sm bottle Hidden Valley Ranch

dressing 1 package Won Ton wrappers

Cook sausage and add sautéed onion. Drain in colander and blot dry with paper towels.

Add cheeses and dressing to sausage mixture.

Separate won ton wrappers and brush lightly with cooking oil on both sides. Place the won ton wrapper in muffin tin to shape into a small cup.

Bake on 350 degrees for approx 5 minutes or until slightly brown.

Remove from oven and add sausage mixture to won ton wrappers.

Bake sausage stars for 10 minutes or until cheese is melted.

### Management Company

Ability Management Company (239) 591-4200 Property Manager - Allen Bouley

Email: allen@abilityteam.com

### **Newsletter Committee**

Pam Quillin, Gloria Smith, Jennifer Killoren, Dana Piccolini, Annette Messerli & Pat Linhoff